

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Please replace the current Abstract with the following:

A method for creating an aesthetically pleasing wood design. Generally, a design is transferred to a sanded and cleaned piece of porous wood, and the design is etched using one or more trenching techniques. Parts of the design are then burned using a heating element to impart various shades of darkness or shadow to the design. After burning, the design may be finished and/or colored with a paint, varnish, oil or other finishing material. More than one layer of finish is typically used, and a sanding step is used between successive finishing layers. After a final finishing step, the wood may be sealed or finished with, for example, polyurethane.